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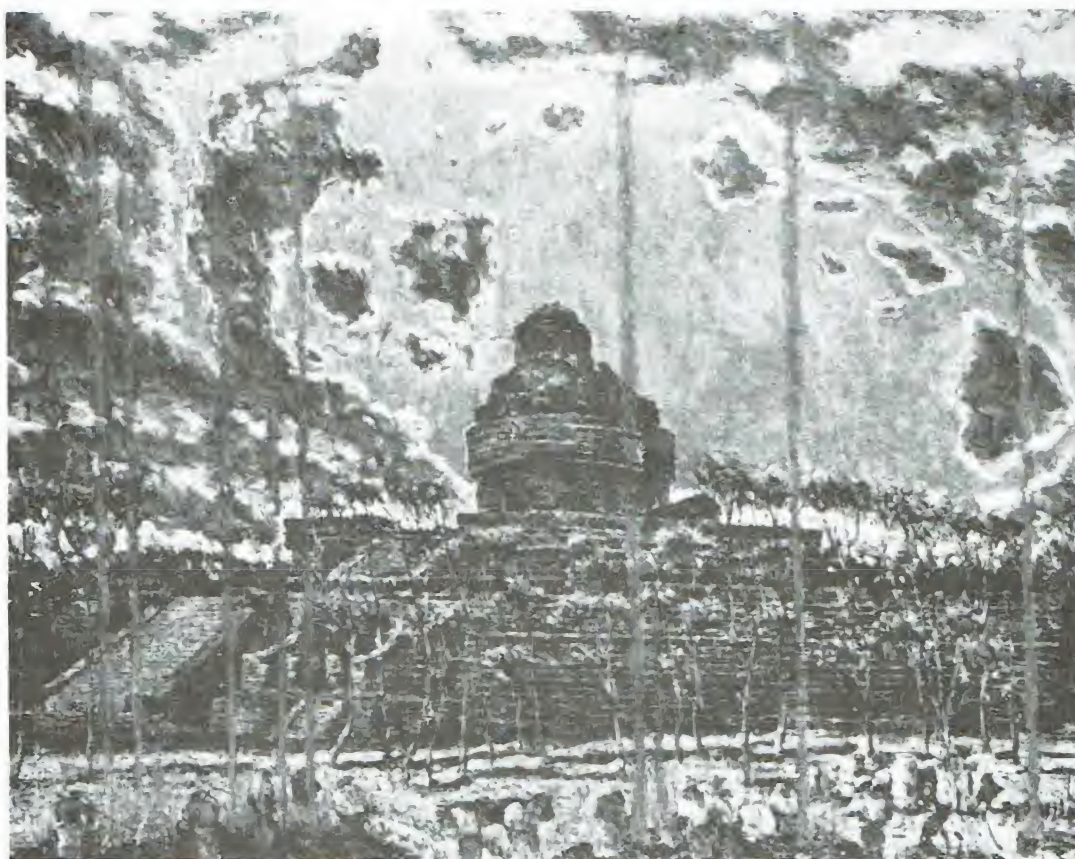
VADE MECUM, VOLVENTIBUS ANNIS

THE MAYANS
SAN ANTONIO,
TEXAS

Degree 8 - 9

Number 137

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THE "DO IT" LECTURES

MAYAN
REVELATION

137

THE FORWARD FORMULA

I. ON STALEMATES

IV. KNOCK

II. ASK

V. DYNAMIC LIVING

III. SEEK

VI. A NEW START

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LET OUR PRAYERS, LIKE THE ANCIENT SACRIFICES,
ASCEND MORNING AND EVENING. LET OUR DAYS BEGIN
AND END WITH GOD.

-- Channing

BELOVED CENTURION:

You have come a long ways since becoming a Mayan; you have developed wondrously; you have progressed in your quest for truth; you are a different person than when you first made that important decision to follow the Mayan Way of Life. Naturally, you have problems which are all a part of today's living; it is true that we are privileged to live in these interesting days of rapid advancement, - but they are difficult days for all; therefore, the greater our mastery over self, the greater is our ability to cope with problems when they arise.

When we have become adult in our thinking, we are able to meet with more poise the emotional crises which come to some of us. Our faith is strengthened through the knowledge we have gained as Mayans on the path which can only lead onward and upward. We never become adult until we learn to overcome childish things, regardless of what age we achieve. When we learn to put all selfish thoughts aside and learn to think of others and attain the state of mind where we desire to serve and help those who are in need of help - that is the time we become adults, - Christians, and it is at that state of our selfhood that we find the greatest joy and happiness. Forgetting of self is one of the greatest lessons we will ever learn and, in learning that lesson, we actually receive more.

The lesson which we are about to study is, in the humble opinion of your instructor, the answer to every human need. It is not a lesson to be looked over and then put aside. It is a lesson to be studied thoughtfully. The instructions set forth in this lesson should be lived by you every day and made a part of your existence. You are told how to ASK, SEEK and KNOCK, and, verily, my student, Companion and friend, I say unto you that by following these instructions, nothing is impossible.

I have never prayed sincerely for anything but it came; probably not exactly when I expected it, nor how I expected it, but in some manner it came; and so it can be with you, if you will take this lesson to your heart and make it a part of your daily life.

Right here may I give you a thought which was given by T. Brooks, "The best and sweetest flowers of Paradise God gives to His people when they are on their knees. Prayer is the gate of Heaven - the key to let us into Paradise."

We will now proceed into the Truth set forth in this lesson, and as you read the words given to you, please remember that the feelings I have expressed about this lesson come from the very depth of my heart. It is an extremely important lesson for you.



Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find;
 knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Matthew 7:7.

1. ON STALEMATES

Are you at a stalemate in the effort to live your life satisfactorily and well? If so, that is nothing new or unusual. It happens to all of us at times, so do not think your case is any different. The more complex the world life becomes, the more easily and often it happens that the forces of our lives, pulling and pushing this way and that, become so evenly matched that it seems impossible to move, especially to move forward.

There are three ways out, and only one of them is good. The first is to struggle against the situation like a bird beating its wings against the sides of its cage in the effort to escape, and getting nothing for its efforts but bruised and maybe broken wings. If you are doing that, save your efforts for you are playing a losing game. It is no use to pound against a stone wall or to bruise one's fists beating at an iron door. A bird always finds that the bars of its cage are more durable than its wings.

The second way is to try to be clever enough to win against the situation. That is better than the first way, but it is neither wholly right nor often successful. While cleverness may solve some of life's problems, it cannot solve them all; and the more important ones are the very cases at which it fails. However clever you may be, you will lose some of the time and probably most of the time. Life's situations tend to set like cement. Besides, the people against whom you match your wits may be clever too.

Ingenuity has its limits. It promises more than it can deliver, and for life's stalemates you need a formula that is sure to work. You also need one that will always lead you forward.

Do not yield to the temptation to take a side road or to turn backward because you think you know the way. You will never bring up where you want to by going in the wrong direction. To turn from the way forward is to compromise, and in the long run compromise never wins.

The Master has a directive for these stalemate conditions. It is the third and only right way. It is effective in all conditions, and it leads only forward. It is stated at the head of this lesson, and we call it the FORWARD FORMULA. Its framework consists of three simple key words - ASK, SEEK, AND KNOCK.

No matter in what kind of a spot you stand, that is the way out. No matter what good thing you are trying to do, that is the secret of getting ahead with it. No matter what worthy goal you are trying to reach, that is the formula. Things unasked are not obtained. Things unsought are not found. Doors on which no one knocks are not opened. Now let us consider these three magic words:

2. ASK

Friends may extend you some favors, do you some kindnesses, and render you

Revelation Number 137

My Prayer

To be placed in the Mayan Chapel of Miracles



My Name is _____

My Address is _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

I enclose as my donation to the Chapel of Miracles \$ _____

some help, without knowing whether you need them or want them. Life will do the same. Some good will always trickle through to you, however silent you may be about your desires and needs. But this is more or less a hit or miss affair, and its results are not satisfying.

God is kinder still. He does everything for you that you make possible by preserving favorable conditions to receive it, but even that great blessing is greatly limited if you only go silently through life passively accepting whatever providential good happens to get through to you.

But your friends do better if they know what you want and need. Life does better if you do some choosing and selecting. Even God can do more for you if you pay Him the courtesy of taking Him into your confidence.

So why not be specific about it? Why not be on terms of understanding with all, and especially with the Giver of all good? Why not be as definite with God as a child is with Santa Claus, as simple and believing as it is with a parent? Your humble and sincere request has a way of opening the channels of Providence and warming up its machinery, so to speak.

Prayer and understanding communion does stimulate the processes of Providence and make them work better. As the Master said, he that asks receives, he that seeks finds, and he that knocks at the door finds it opening to him. The only exception is when he asks, seeks, or knocks at the door of something that is not best.

Most of us know in a vague and passive kind of way that the richer life starts for all at the same place, the point of prayer; but how many of us make definite, positive, active use of the fact? To do THAT is the FIRST LESSON TO LEARN, the FIRST HABIT TO ACQUIRE.

Prayer has other purposes than asking for things, of course; but asking for things is still one of its purposes. By asking, and then observing what we do or do not receive, we can learn what the will of God is for us, and with that we should be content. From this process will come a calculated, consistent, constant prayer habit, and no life that has that will ever be a failure. To receive according to the will of Infinite Wisdom and Goodness is the truest gain.

A stalemate is a kind of log jam in the stream of life. The prayer of faith is about the only thing that is sure to break such an obstruction and set things operating smoothly and adequately again. To pray is the least effort you can make, and yet it is the greatest. Its result is to shift the problem from your shoulders that are too weak to carry it onto God's lifting power which is able to carry worlds. Then the jam breaks. The threads begin to untangle. KNOW THIS - BELIEVE IT, for it is Truth.

Do not call this directive of the Master impractical. Those who said so in His time and since have missed their goal and lost their heritage. If it had been impractical, He would never have said it. To act on it will be the most practical thing you ever did. Whatever He saith to you - and He did say this - do not debate it, but DO IT.

Make a list of your greatest needs on the Prayer Sheet inserted in this lesson and send it in to your Mayan Chapel of Miracles, and start asking in faith for them one by one. You will soon begin to have a glad story to tell.

3. SEEK

The second directive in this threefold formula is, "Seek, and ye shall find". This is a plain and simple assertion. It is safe to assume that since one who seeks will ultimately find what he is looking for, and that in the process he will also find many values he was not looking for, would otherwise never have found, and probably would never even have known about. All who labor accomplish something every day, and in the course of time they accomplish what they set out to do. This applies to seeking as well as to everything else.

This, then, is a challenge to have the spirit of discovery, to be a searcher. The searchers of the world are always finding its worth. The searchers in the vast field of life are always finding the peculiar values it holds, those surpassing the worth of silver and gold. They accumulate day by day the riches that moth and rust do not consume nor thieves break through and steal.

Watch for the truths that are worth knowing, the ideas that will broaden your outlook and deepen your understanding, the experiences that will extend your horizon, the habits that will develop and strengthen you, the friends who will be helpful to you, the opportunities that will make you useful and successful, and EVERYTHING THAT WILL MAKE LIFE MEAN MORE TO YOU AND YOU MORE TO IT. ABOVE ALL, WATCH FOR THE THINGS THAT REPRESENT YOUR DUTY, AND IF THEY ARE BEYOND YOUR HUMAN STRENGTH SEEK FOR DIVINE HELP IN ACCOMPLISHING THEM.

What is the thing you feel deep within yourself you should accomplish, the thing to which you feel called? Do not give it up because it looks too great or seems too far away. If it is for you to do you can have the necessary help to enable you to do it. Have the boldness to seek it out, together with the means of accomplishing it.

What is the thing you want most out of life and feel that it is right for you to have? Have you thought it over till it is clearly defined in your mind, till you are sure it is what you want, what is worth wanting, and what you will always want? When you have determined that much, start seeking. If it is right for you it exists somewhere, and it is in a place where you can find it if you try earnestly enough.

The thirsty animal may have to hunt for a waterhole, but there is one. The hungry man may have to search for food, but food exists. Nature has created no need without providing its satisfaction. Neither has the Father of our souls. The longing soul may have to seek for the satisfaction of its hunger, but the fact of its longing means that somewhere waits the answer. Nor is the sense of duty left without the possibility that it can be performed.

These things will not come to you. You must go to them. They will not discover themselves. You must find them. When you do, you may be amazed how near they were all the time.

MAKE YOUR LIFE A SEARCH FOR WHAT IS GOOD. You can do it both in work and rest. You can search wherever you go and in whatever you do. If it is not too easy to find, do not be concerned. Finding it would be no fun if it were. When you have sought and by the help of heaven have found, you can feel that you deserve the prize and that you have a right to keep and enjoy it. So be an explorer and seek out what God has available for your life.

4. KNOCK

The third and last segment of the forward formula is "Knock, and it shall be opened to you." What a sweeping promise that is, and how wonderfully it can be fulfilled! That is, if you really do what it says.

All this asking, seeking, and knocking means two things - request and effort. Without request there is no faith, and without effort there is no growth or progress. Life climbs to higher forms where people try.

In the parts of the world where everything has been easy people have not generally risen far from savagery. Progress is found in the places where some struggle is required. That is why you find the cities, the machines, and the cultivated areas in the colder parts of the earth. Where man can sit and wait for his clothes to come out of the jungle and his food to fall from the trees he has tended to be content to live his life on that basis.

Knock, then, at the doors of life, all the doors that seem to promise good for you - there are seven of these doors, the mystical number seven:

- | | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 1. | The Door of WISDOM |
| 2. | The Door of DUTY |
| 3. | The Door of PROGRESS |
| 4. | The Door of ACHIEVEMENT |
| 5. | The Door of COMFORT |
| 6. | The Door of HAPPINESS |
| 7. | The Door of PEACE. |

They are all good doors. Try to let each one you knock at be the best one yet.

Take up some new study, develop some new ambition, conceive some new possibility, read some new and worthwhile book, make some new and worthy friend, think out some new problem. See if you cannot do something that will enlarge your life and increase your usefulness.

Bernard Baruch has said that the secret of wealth is expressed in six short words - Find some need and fill it. But that formula is applicable to other things than getting rich too. It is also the secret of successful living. It is a door on which to knock. Do it with an unselfish motive. You will not lose anything by it. You can afford to work with an unselfish motive, because what you do for God and others you are doing for yourself as well. Every act you perform, every service you render, every door you try, becomes a part of yourself while it releases good that will return to you.

We have spoken of three ways to break a stalemate. The same applies to opening doors. One is to try to batter them down. That is bad if you fail, and even worse if you succeed. Besides it shows weakness and bad technique. The second is to find a key and unlock the door. That is taking too much liberty with Providence, for it may not be your door. The third way is to knock, to apply, and if it is your door it will be opened.

Study the wonder of doors. It will intrigue and inform you. Behind them is history, the whole story of life, ambition, and struggle. Behind them also is all life's worth for you. Knock at some new door of hope and promise today.

5. DYNAMIC LIVING

When once you have thought out and adopted the program of ask, seek and knock, you will not only have crossed the line between thinking and doing, but you will also have crossed the line between static and dynamic living. That means that you are on your way.

Static living is standstill living, do-nothing living, futile existence from day to day, drifting with the stream, arrive where one may. It wins nothing, accomplishes nothing, and brings you no credit. It is like being a motor without the power turned on, an engine without steam in the boiler. It requires no ability, no intelligence, no imagination, and no initiative. It is dead loss to the ages and to you.

There are all degrees of static living, of course, but any degree of it at all robs you by that much of your birthright. Any measure of it means that you will fall short of the mark by that much, that life will mean that much less to you than could have been the case. But from the day you adopt the ask, seek, knock formula static living for you will be no more. ALL THE LIGHTS WILL BE TURNED ON UP THE ROAD. FROM THAT DAY YOUR LIVING WILL BE DYNAMIC.

Dynamic living is power living. It is living with the motor turned on. It means that something is happening, something is being produced, distance is being gained all the time. You are on your way when you adopt and begin to live by the forward formula.

In other words, it makes life what it was made to be - a creative thing. Life is the capacity for knowing, deciding, willing, and acting, all of which are steps in creating. Life that does not move to a purpose is something less than life. Life that changes nothing for the better is hardly deserving of the name. It is not living in terms of thoughts and deeds. It is merely existing by the clock. The comment of the universe on such living is something like the common phrase, "So what?"

Static living is a swamp; dynamic living is a running stream. Static living is a camp; dynamic living is a road. Static living is a point; dynamic living is a line. Static living is an end; dynamic living is a series of new beginnings. The choice between them should be easy.

One of the things the Master, Jesus, made very clear about the kingdom of

happiness is that it is a living and growing thing. It is like a grain of mustard seed that holds in it the potentiality of a tree, or a lump of yeast that holds the possibility of a whole vessel full of batter. Anything that is really alive grows. The kingdom of heaven, then, is a development, the changing of possibilities into actualities.

It is never the same one day that it ever was before. Like a bud, it has come a little nearer to being a flower. Like an acorn, it has come a little nearer to being a tree. The kingdom life is always moving on and up because it ASKS, SEEKS, and KNOCKS. To become dynamic is to come alive. DO IT.

6. A NEW START

If you are stalemated, then, now is the time to make a new start. If you are not doing as well in the business of living as you might, now is the time to change it by turning the power on in your life. Make a clean break with the old, dragging, unfruitful days. Put them behind you forever, for they have failed you and they promise nothing better, ever.

How can you put them behind you and make this new start? By adopting the forward formula - ask, seek, and knock. Start asking God for your good. Commence seeking for your heritage and your place in the world of life. Begin knocking at the doors of possibility behind which are the things that could be true for you, and perhaps could have been all the time.

What a wonderful thing it is to make a new start, to turn the page on the days of failure, to close the door on the futilities of the past! What a wonderful thing it is that such a thing is possible!

Get up on the right side of the bed for once. Get yourself clean and ready for a new and better kind of day. Begin to think, talk, and act constructively. Make people glad you are around. Make your day worth living, and do it again every day.

You have reconsidered your way of life. You have seen what it might as well be. Now begin to make it so. Act as though everything you hope for were already true. Act like the child of a king, for you are. Act as though you were heir to a priceless heritage, for it is so.

You will be surprised how much more tractable the world will be, how much more cooperative people will have become, how much more easily will swing the gates you thought were so forbidding. You will be surprised how ready people will be to help you, how much more you can achieve that you thought was impossible, and how far you can go in a single day toward a happy and successful life.

Do not burden your mind with the whole weight of the future. Concentrate on this one step, this one task, this one day. Remember all you need to do is to make this day count for its full part in the experiment. Make it a model day, and see how it works, but remember that it is only a beginning and that succeeding ones will be still better. Days added together make the years. Steps added together make the journey. Tasks added together make the life work.

Do not worry now about the last lap of the race. Give your whole attention to the first. Just be sure you are headed in the right direction, and keep going. The destination will take care of itself.

Do not worry about the lost days behind you either. Just be glad they are behind you, and leave them there. Most people have lost some time by not finding themselves sooner. Nothing can change that now, though you may make up some of it as you go along, for you are older and wiser now. From here on in is the part of living to which to give your whole attention now - beginning with a new start.

Some wonderful, happy day you will reflect that it was the new start that did it, the new start of a change from static to dynamic living, the new start of adopting the forward formula, - ask, seek, and knock.

7. THE VICTORY VIEWPOINT

As soon as you have rethought your life and started to revise your way of living it you will notice a great change taking place in your feelings and attitudes. The spirit of defeat will then give place to that of victory. It is along this line that the triumphs of life are won. Who are the victors of the world?

- ★ They are the ones who keep moving forward and do not let themselves get on the defensive.
- ★ They are the ones who never give way to despair, knowing that there is not much left after courage goes.
- ★ They are the ones who are sure that the struggle is worthwhile and the prize worth contending for.
- ★ They are the ones whose motives are pure and whose cause is right - the brave, the just, the honest, the unselfish - those in whose hands victory can be safely trusted.
- ★ They are the ones who have developed convictions as to what is good for themselves and for mankind, and who cherish those convictions deeply enough to live for them.
- ★ They are the ones who can take a great purpose and cling to it, whatever happens; who can choose a road and follow it to a goal, whatever the weather or the conditions may be.
- ★ They are the ones whose lives are empowered with a great motive and a worthy aim; who have turned from weakness and futility and taken the forward trail; who no longer let things go by chance, but who ask for what they need, seek for what is best for them, and knock at their doors of possibility and opportunity.
- ★ They are the ones who know that one with God makes a majority, and that whoever keeps on God's side will win, whatever the odds may be; the ones

who do not take their cues from the crowd, but from the still, small voice.

Are you one of these? You can be. Nothing but your own indecision and inaction can stand between you and triumph. You have heard the Master's word, - DO IT.



As we close this important lesson, let us say together the following prayer:

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I set my face forward. Lead me according to Thy Will. Amen.

Blessings on you,

YOUR CLASS INSTRUCTOR.

The next lesson in this important "DO IT" Series, is entitled, "THE LAW OF INCREASING RETURNS". Please look forward to it.

